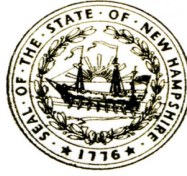


STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
Executive Council

COLIN VAN OSTERN
EXECUTIVE COUNCILOR
DISTRICT TWO



STATE HOUSE ROOM 207
107 NORTH MAIN STREET
CONCORD, NH 03301
(603) 271-3632

Friends,

March 20, 2013

The big Council news this week was Attorney General Mike Delaney's decision not to seek another term; he will stay on board temporarily to help transition to a successor, not yet nominated.

Yesterday's meeting considered numerous projects impacting residents across this district, including:

(1) Projects impacting Merrimack Co & Central NH: Approved: hiring experts to evaluate Public Service of NH's \$450mm Merrimack Station generator investment; antennas on Mt. Belknap; an environmental impact study of expanding Route 106 near NH Motor Speedway; road & sidewalk improvement around Northfield schools; and more median barriers on I-89 between Exits 1-5.

(2) Projects impacting the Monadnock Region: Approved a loan to improve water systems in Alstead.

(3) Projects impacting Strafford Co: Approved: a UNH project to reduce winter salt runoff; a loan to Dover to increase water pressure in the north end; increasing the number of Strafford-area students with disabilities graduating from high school ready for college or careers; \$14k in federal Homeland Security funds for the town of Durham; and maximizing CCTV camera & controls at Exits 7 & 16 on the Spaulding Turnpike.

(4) Other projects & policies with statewide impact: Just two items of disagreement at the meeting: first, the Council voted 4-1 to authorize \$11 million in tax-exempt bonds for a private waste management company (I voted No, concerned over their weak credit rating, lack of clear benefit to NH jobs, and because their application stated some of the tax-free funds would pay their state lobbyists). Secondly, the Council delayed a scheduled vote to launch online auctions for state surplus good. I love the idea of adding online auctions to the live biannual auctions at White Farm, but questioned why the fees collected would be twice as high online as in person.

Also, the Council finalized an April deadline for the report evaluating proposals to construct or operate NH prisons; OK'd planning for a state-federal partnership Health Exchange under the Affordable Care Act; accepted federal

funds of \$10 MM for children's health insurance, \$888k to support homeless individuals in obtaining housing, and \$238k to promote NH-made agriculture products including allowing use of food stamps at farmers' markets; and strengthened state government planning for severe weather and impacts of climate change

(5) Confirmations & Nominations: Heard several nominations, to be voted on April 3rd, including Emma Rous of Durham to the State Board of Education; confirmed several positions including Virginia Barry of Bridgewater as Commissioner of Education and Paul Lloyd of Concord onto the Board of Managers at NH Veterans Home.

Full details on all these items are included below. The next meeting is on April 3, 2013. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to let me know – and **if you prefer not to receive these updates, just drop me an email and let me know and I'll remove you from this list.**

Sincerely,

Colin

FULL 3/20 AGENDA: <http://1.usa.gov/15dbKPU> (or follow the links below for documentation of each item)

1. DETAIL: CENTRAL NH PROJECTS

[Authorized](#) to employ experts for assistance to complete participation in the NH Public Utilities Commission, Re Public Service Company of NH, Investigation of Scrubber Costs and Cost Recovery. (2) Further authorized to amend a contract with Exeter Associates Inc., (originally approved by G&C on 5-9-12, item #51), to complete participation in the NH Public Utilities Commission, Re Public Services Company of NH, Investigation of Scrubber Costs and Cost Recovery, by increasing the amount by \$39,500 from \$30,000 to \$69,500, and by extending the expiration day from June 30, 2013 to December 31, 2013. **Fiscal Committee approved.**

[Authorized](#) the Division of Forests and Lands to enter into a **retroactive** lease agreement with WBIN Media Company Inc., Portsmouth, NH, to lease space of certain areas at the summit of Belknap Mountain at Belknap Mountain State Forest. Effective March 1, 2013 through February 28, 2018, with the option to renew for three additional five-year periods. (2) Further authorized to accept a monthly fee of \$1,000 subject to a three percent annual adjustment to be paid by WBIN Media Company over the five-year period.

[Authorized](#) to establish a Consultant to complete required environmental and ground survey as part of the corridor widening study. (2) Further authorized to transfer \$37,363 from Highway Surplus to fund increases in various accounting units. Effective upon G&C approval through June 30, 2013. **Fiscal Committee approved.**

[Authorized](#) the Bureau of Planning and Community Assistance to enter into an agreement with the Town of Northfield to provide funding and services under the Federal Safe Routes to School Program through a local project administration process, totaling \$13,685.70. **100% Federal Funds.**

[Authorized](#) the Bureau of Construction to amend a contract with Weaver Brothers Construction Inc., Concord, NH (originally approved by G&C on 10-17-12, item #98), for the installation of a median barrier at a number of locations on Interstate 89 from the Interstate 93 interchange in Bow to the exit 5 interchange in Hopkinton, by increasing the amount by \$275,000 from \$1,915,786.72 to \$2,190,786.72. Effective upon G&C approval. **100% Federal Funds.**

2. DETAIL: MONADNOCK PROJECTS

[Authorized](#) a loan agreement with Well Hill Cooperative Inc., Alstead, NH, to finance water system improvements, in the amount of \$268,000. Effective upon G&C approval. **79% Federal, 21% Capital Funds.**

3. DETAIL: STRAFFORD COUNTY PROJECTS

[Authorized](#) to enter into a Cooperative Project Agreement with the University of NH, to complete the College & Reservoir Brook Watershed Management Plan Development Phase I: Salt Reduction Demonstration Project, in the amount of \$52,265. Effective upon G&C approval through December 31, 2014. **100% Federal Funds.**

[Authorized](#) a Supplemental Loan agreement with the City of Dover in the amount of \$4,000,000, which finalizes the loan amount used to finance the water system improvements project. Effective upon G&C approval. **79% Federal, 21% Capital (General) Funds.**

[Authorized](#) to enter into a **sole source** contract with Strafford Learning Center, Somersworth, NH, to develop and provide training and technical assistance to local education agencies in their region under the State Personnel Development Grant, in an amount not to exceed \$100,500. Effective upon G&C approval through June 30, 2014. **100% Federal Funds.**

[Authorized](#) the Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management to enter into a grant agreement with the Town of Durham for the purchase of Firehouse Software and 9 iPads for a total amount of \$14,077. Effective upon G&C approval through September 30, 2013. **100% Federal Funds.**

[Authorized](#) the Bureau of Traffic to amend a contract with Transcore ITS LLC, New York, NY, (originally approved by G&C on 9-22-10, item #239), for the installation of a communications infrastructure and ITS technology along the I-95, Spaulding Turnpike, Route 101 and Route 4 corridors, by increasing the amount by \$246,859.32 from \$4,784,729.60 to \$5,031,588.92. Effective upon G&C approval through October 7, 2016. **52% Federal, 48% Turnpike Funds.**

4. DETAIL: OTHER PROJECTS & POLICIES WITH STATEWIDE IMPACT

[Authorized](#) to hold a Public Hearing with respect to the financing of an industrial facility by the Business Finance Authority for Casella Waste Systems, Inc. for projects located in Allenstown, Newport, Bethlehem and Salem, New Hampshire. Action will authorize a Resolution under RSA 162-I:9 to determine the financing will serve a public use, provide public benefit and is within the policy and authority of the Act.

[Authorized](#) the Bureau of Purchase and Property to enter into a contract with Auctions International Inc., Aurora, NY, free of charge to the State, for the administration of online auction services in the capacity of an intermediary and administrator for the sales and financial processing of surplus property. Effective upon G&C approval through January 31, 2016.

[Authorized](#) to **retroactively** amend a contract with MGT of America Inc., Tallahassee, FL (originally approved by G&C on 7-11-12, item #15), for the provision of consulting services for the evaluation and analysis of certain proposals received as a result of a series of three Request of Proposals for the construction and potential operation of prison facilities for the State, by extending the end date through April 30, 2013. No Additional Funding.

[Authorized](#) to accept and expend federal grant funds in the amount of \$409,690 for FY 2013 from the US Department of Health and Human Services for the purpose of planning, development and design of plan management tasks relating to a partnership health benefit exchange to preserve the state's insurance regulatory authority, to the greatest extent possible, for insurance plans sold on the exchange. (2) Further authorized to establish a Class 050 (Personal Service – Part Time Temporary) position for one Grants & Contracts Technician. (3) Further authorized to establish a Class 046 (Consultants) to enter into contracts for consulting services with various vendors. Effective upon G&C approval through June 30, 2013. **100% Federal Funds. Fiscal Committee approved.**

[Authorized](#) to enter into a contract with Public Consulting Group Inc., Boston, MA, for consulting services for the purpose of planning, development and design of plan management activities related to partnership health benefit exchange, in the amount of \$594,250. Effective upon G&C approval through February 28, 2014. **100% Federal Funds.**

[Authorized](#) to accept and expend additional Title XXI State Children's Health Insurance Program federal funds from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services in the amount of \$9,745,766. Effective upon G&C approval through June 30, 2013. **Fiscal Committee approved.**

[Authorized](#) to accept and expend Emergency Solutions Grant federal funds from the US Department of Housing and Urban Development to provide services to

homeless individuals throughout the State of NH in the amount of \$887,687. Effective upon G&C approval through June 30, 2013. **100% Federal Funds. Fiscal Committee approved.**

[Authorized](#) to enter into a memorandum of agreement with the NH Department of Environmental Services, Concord, NH, to support work to increase resiliency in State government relative to severe weather events and other natural trends that are adversely affecting the state, in the amount of \$240,000. Effective upon G&C approval through September 30, 2013. **100% Federal ARRA Funds.**

[Authorized](#) the Division of Agricultural Development to accept and expend grant funds from the US Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Marketing Service, in the amount of \$238,572. Effective upon G&C approval through June 30, 2013. **100% Federal Funds. Fiscal Committee approved.**

5. DETAIL: APPOINTMENTS & NOMINATIONS:

(* = District 2 Resident)

CONFIRMED:

Education Commissioner: Virginia Barry, Bridgewater, NH

Board of Managers of the NH Veterans Homes: Paul Lloyd, Concord, NH*

NH Council on the Arts: Billie Tooley, Portsmouth, NH

Board of Licensure of Interpreters for the Deaf & Hard of Hearing: Glenys Crane-Emerson, Greenland, NH

Speech-Language Pathology Governing Board: Laura Darling, Loudon, NH

Advisory Council on Unemployment Compensation: Connie Roy-Czyzowski, Manchester, NH

NOMINATED FOR CONSIDERATION AT FUTURE MTG:

State Board of Education: Emma Rous, Durham, NH*

NH Army National Guard: Captain Tyler Chamberlin of Dover, NH to the rank of Major*

Cannon Mountain Advisory Commission: Karen K. Irwin, Hopkinton, NH*

Dental Hygienists Committee, Board of Dental Examiners: Jodi Carnes,
Rollinsford, NH*

**Education & Training Officer, Division of Personnel, Department of
Administrative Services:** Mary (Kate) McGovern, Penacook, NH*

State Committee on Aging: Sherri W. Harden, Goffstown, NH

Community College System of NH: Angela M. Roussel-Roberge, Mont Vernon,
NH

Board of Managers of the NH Veterans Home: Raymond J. Goulet,
Manchester, NH

THE NEXT GOVERNOR AND EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING WILL BE HELD
ON APRIL 3, 2013-10:00 AM AT THE STATE HOUSE, CONCORD, NH